

HC 4424 (3)

2 Library

WINSLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1956

July 1957.

To the Chairman & Councillors of the  
Winslow Rural District Council.



Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the health and vital statistics of the Winslow Rural District Council for the year 1956 together with the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was greater than the previous year due to an increase in the number of measles cases.

There was no case of poliomyelitis notified during the year. Two cases of meningitis notified recovered completely. None of the infectious diseases notified was treated in hospital. Diphtheria Immunization and vaccination in selected groups is carried out through the County Council.

The general standard of health in the district is good and compares favourably with the rest of the country.

Though not so grave a problem as in former years suitable housing accommodation is still the need of many.

The closing of the Great Horwood Hutment site and the rehousing of its last tenant was a notable advance.

There are still in the district a number of houses of the older type with many years of life, lacking the modern amenities of bathrooms and suitably equipped kitchens and food stores. Encouragement should be given in suitable cases towards the rescue of such properties so that occupants may enjoy the health promoting facilities afforded to dwellers in modern Council Houses.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Councillors for their help and guidance during the year, the Staff generally and the Public Health Staff in particular for their splendid team work.

I am,  
Ladies & Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

*J. C. Sims-Roberts*  
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS FOR 1956

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. J.T.C. Sims-Roberts, M.B. Ch.B.  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Barrister at Law.

Medical Officer under Poor Law Acts  
Public Health Inspector & Surveyor  
Additional Public Health Inspector  
Public Health Clerk

Dr. P.F. Rudd.  
Mr. N.J. Shipp, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.  
Mr. D.A. Keen C.R.S.I.  
Mrs. F.V. Anderson.

C.W.

# VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1956

			1955	1956	
Live Births:	Legitimate -	Males	55	57	
		Females	42	52	
		Total	97	109	
	Illegitimate-	Males	5	4	
		Females	2	2	
		Total	7	6	
Still Births:	Legitimate -	Males	4	2	
		Females	2	2	
		Total	6	4	
	Illegitimate-	Males	-	-	
		Females	-	1	
		Total	-	1	
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			13.56	14.99	
Birth Rate (corrected)			15.31	16.94	
Total (live and still) Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			14.34	15.65	
Birth Rate for England & Wales			15.00	15.70	
Deaths:	Males		60	54	
	Females		65	66	
	Total		125	120	
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			16.29	15.65	
Standardised Death Rate			11.89	9.86	
Death Rate for England & Wales			11.70	11.70	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:					
Legitimate -	Male		1	-	
	Female		-	1	
	Total		1	1	
	Illegitimate-	Male		1	-
		Female		-	-
		Total		1	-
All infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			19.23	8.69	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			10.30	9.17	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			142.86	-	
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:					
Legitimate -	Male		1	-	
	Female		-	1	
	Total		1	1	
	Illegitimate-	Male		1	-
		Female		-	-
		Total		1	-
Area (in acres)			36420		
Population			7670		
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December 1956 (according to Rate Book)			2520		
Rateable Value (31st December 1956)			£60815		
Sum represented by Penny Rate (31st March 1956)			£134-15-4		



## ANALYSIS OF DEATHS

Syphilitic Disease	1.
Malignant neoplasms, lung, bronchus	3.
Malignant neoplasms, uterus	1.
Other Malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms	11.
Vascular lesions of nervous system	15.
Coronary disease angina	11.
Hypertension with heart disease	1.
Other heart disease	40.
Other circulatory disease	5.
Pneumonia	6.
Bronchitis	7.
Influenza	2.
Other diseases of respiratory system	1.
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1.
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11.
Accidents (motor vehicle)	2.
All other accidents	2.

---

120

---

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

During the year 210 cases were reported.

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Puerperal Pyrexia	1.	-
Measles	56.	190.
Pneumonia	3.	5.
Whooping Cough	4.	1.
Scarlet Fever	9.	4.
Sonne Dysentery	3.	6.
Meningitis	1.	2.

Two cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified.

Food Poisoning No cases notified during the year.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### Hospitals

Hospital accommodation for the district is provided by the Royal Bucks and Tindal General Hospitals Aylesbury. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital or one of the Isolation Hospitals in the Oxford Group.

These three hospitals are administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

Cases are admitted to Stoke Mandeville or the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford if bed space is unavailable.

Similarly, infectious disease cases are admitted to the Infectious Disease Hospitals within the Oxford Region when there is no accommodation locally.

### Pathological Specimens

The majority of specimens for examination are submitted to the Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised whenever necessary.

### Ambulance Services

The ambulance services in the area are the responsibility of the Bucks County Council. Five ambulances are stationed in the Borough of Aylesbury for the use of the town and surrounding districts. Included in this number is a sitting case ambulance.

### Maternity and Child Welfare

This service is controlled by the Bucks County Council.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Great Horwood, Stewkley and Winslow, and a Mobile Centre visits Mursley, Newton Longville, Shenley and Swanbourne.

### Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation

The Bucks County Council being the Local Health Authority as defined by the National Health Service Act 1946 administer this service.

### Treatment of Venereal Disease

A Venereal Disease Clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

### National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 47 Removal of persons in need of Care and Attention

During the year one person was removed to hospital under the above Act.

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1956.

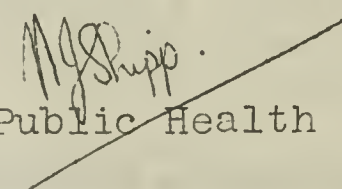
In particular I would like to draw the Council's attention to my remarks under the heading Refuse Collection and Disposal concerning provision of dustbins by householders. I regard this as an important step which would have many advantages.

With regard to the closing of the temporary housing site I feel that credit is due to the Council for the way in which they have speedily dealt with the problem. Towards the end the remaining hutments were becoming extremely bad and very difficult to maintain.

All the other services of the Council have continued to function smoothly.

Once again I would like to express my appreciation for the continued co-operation and help given by the various Committees and the Council in dealing with matters concerning this Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

  
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector.



## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year all the Council's disposal works and housing estate plants (again with the exception of Mursley) have continued to function satisfactorily. In addition to normal maintenance on the plants a considerable amount of time continues to be spent on maintenance of old sink waste sewers and ditches in various parts of the district.

The most serious troubles during the year occurred at Whaddon where a sewer ditch is piped in 4" agricultural pipes for a distance of some 400 yards. In addition to sewage from the village and effluent from Briary View housing estate plant a large quantity of surface water flows through this very inadequate pipeline and the position with regard to maintenance and responsibility is rather complicated.

With regard to Mursley I fear that if authority from the Ministry is not soon granted to proceed with the new works the effluent will spread to the area of dry land adjacent. This would be a very serious matter as the new works are to be constructed on this site.

Similarly there is urgent need for the Granborough scheme to be commenced in order that the long outstanding nuisance in connection with the various sewer ditches can be abated.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

The refuse collection vehicle is now four years old and considering that it is in constant use and is the hardest worked of the Council's vehicles I feel that it is standing up well to the task. Despite one or two delays in the collection service due to breakdowns and absence of workmen due to sickness and holidays, the fortnightly collection has been maintained.

During times when workmen are absent the three man team of collectors has to be maintained due to pressure of work. This is done by withdrawing labour engaged on sewerage maintenance although on many occasions this labour cannot really be spared.

With regard to the emptying of bins I do feel that it would be extremely helpful if the Council would give attention to the problem of proper receptacles being provided by householders. This would assist in speeding up collection on this expanding service.

### Streets Cleansing

The only highways cleansed by the Council are in Winslow and are as follows:-

- (a) High Street.
- (b) Station Road.
- (c) Buckingham Road
- (d) Sheep Street
- (e) Horn Street
- (f) Market Square

Cleansing is carried out every week.

### Salvage

The value of salvage collected during the year amounted to £74-19-7.

## RODENT CONTROL

### General Inspections and Treatments

During the year the following inspections and treatments were carried out:-

	<u>Inspected</u>	<u>Treated</u>
Dwellinghouses .....	494	116
Agricultural Properties .....	125	4
Business Premises .....	56	10

All the Council's properties were inspected at frequent intervals and treated as necessary. The Rodent Operative does of course work in the district on alternate weeks but with urgent cases action is taken straight away whether it be required in either this district or Wing district.

With agricultural properties an up-to-date list is maintained of A.E.C. contracts in order to avoid duplication of work.

### Sewer Treatments

During the year the sewers in the district were treated as follows:-

- (a) 10% Testing carried out in April.
- (b) First Maintenance Treatment carried out in May.
- (c) Second Maintenance Treatment carried out in December.

The sewers in the following parishes were shown to be very slightly infested:-

Stewkley  
Newton Longville  
Mursley  
Great Horwood  
North Marston

## HOUSING

### Council Houses

Up to the end of the year the Council had completed 333 post-war dwellings. With 234 pre-war dwellings the grand total became 567.

A notable occasion during the year was the closing of the Great Horwood hutment site the last remaining tenant having been re-housed in December. This hutted camp was first brought into use in 1948. and has served an extremely useful purpose. There were 61 units of accommodation formed many of which housed several families before being demolished.

With regard to the Council's permanent dwellings there were during the year 1144 jobs notified all of which were dealt with.



### Unfit Houses

- (a) Number of houses demolished during the year ..... 3.
- (b) Number of houses closed during the year ..... 4.
- (c) Number of houses being rendered fit at the end of  
the year... .. 1.

With regard to the listed houses remaining to be dealt with I do feel that it would be to the Council's advantage to take immediate action in each case. This would prevent the possibility of places being re-occupied once vacated. It must be remembered that no action to prevent re-occupation can be taken unless an appropriate order has been placed on the dwelling. The commencement of proceedings by serving a "Time and Place" notice does not prevent a place from being re-occupied.

In addition to the above by taking statutory action it does in some instances result in quicker action being taken by owners interested in preserving their property.

### Improvement Grants

During the year the Council agreed to make grants totalling £1,137 - 0 - 0.

- (a) Number of applications received ..... 8.
- (b) Number of applications approved ..... 6.
- (c) Number of applications refused ..... 2.

Every property dealt with was inspected by a Sub-Committee of Council Members together with myself and each case was thoroughly investigated.

The details relating to applications dealt with to 31/12/56 are as follows:-

- (a) Total number of applications received ..... 25.
- (b) Total number of applications approved ..... 21.
- (c) Total number of applications refused ..... 3.
- (d) Total number of applications withdrawn ..... 1.
- (e) Total grants approved to 31st December 1956 ..... £3487-1-0

## FOOD

### Meat Inspection

There are four licenced slaughterhouses in the district only three of which carry out regular slaughtering.

During the year 290 visits were made and the number of animals inspected and amount of meat condemned is shown in the table set cut on the following page.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	240	3	57	816	329	-
Number inspected	240	3	57	816	329	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	2	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ were condemned	49	-	-	6	4	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	20.4%	-	-	1%	1.5%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	-	-	-	9	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5%	-	-	-	2.7%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	NIL	NIL	-	-	NIL	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	NIL	NIL	-	-	NIL	-
Generalised and totally condemned	NIL	NIL	-	-	NIL	-



## Milk

The sampling of milk in the district is undertaken by the Food and Drugs Authority and samples taken during the year indicated the presence of brucella abortus on numerous farms and smallholdings. In all these cases the milk was diverted for pasteurisation.

The following milk licences were issued during the year:-

Dealer's Licence - Tuberculin Tested .....	10.
Dealer's Licence - Pasteurised .....	4.
Supplementary Licence - Tuberculin Tested .....	1.
Supplementary Licence - Pasteurised .....	4.

The number of Distributor's and Dairy's on the register is 12.

## Section 16, Food & Drugs Act, 1955

The numbers of food premises registered under the above Act is as follows:-

- (a) the sale or storage of ice cream intended for sale ...19
- (b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages etc. .... 8.

No ice cream is manufactured in the district. Number of inspections during the year 35.

## Disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned meat is disposed of to local kennels and any other types of food are either buried or burnt on the refuse tip.

## Food Hygiene Regulations

There are 82 food premises (including Public Houses) in the district and where the regulations are not being complied with in all respects owners are preceeding to have the necessary work done.

Fortunately the majority of shops are small family concerns and the hygiene arrangements are adequately catered for.

## WATER SUPPLIES

The following new connections to the Bucks Water Board main have been reported during 1956.

Drayton Parslow	-	Nash	2
Dunton	-	Newton Longville	4
East Claydon	2	North Marston	-
Granborough	3	Shenley Brook End	1
Great Horwood	2	Stewkley	4.
Hoggeston	-	Swanbourne	-
Hogshaw	-	Tattenhoe	-
Little Horwood	1	Whaddon	3
Mursley	3	Winslow	9

I am indebted to the Bucks Water Board for the following information.

1. Supply throughout the area has been at all times satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.
2. Raw water is sampled at approximately monthly intervals. All reports have been satisfactory.

3. Samples of the water from the distributing mains serving this district are taken monthly. All have been satisfactory.
4. Chemical samples are taken quarterly at the source. All satisfactory.
5. There is no tendency to plumbo-solvency.

#### Water Samples

During the year 12 samples of water from wells etc. were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Oxford for bacteriological examination. The results showed that six samples were unsatisfactory.

#### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

	<u>Number of</u>			
	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occs. Pros.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7.	5	NIL.	NIL.
Factories not included in the above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	14.	10	NIL	NIL.
	21.	15.	NIL.	NIL